

Re: How do I prevent local administrator from logging on in safe mode

Source:

http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.group_policy/2006-12/msg00020.html

- *From:* "Roger Abell [MVP]" <mvpNoSpam@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 30 Nov 2006 21:11:21 -0700
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But you did not cross-post. You evidently multi-posted, which is sending the same thing separately, one by one, to multiple groups. Cross-posting is making one post named to go to multiple groups, keeping all responses visible to all in all of those groups.

The memory of those that believe it was not previously possible is either in error, or someone changed the password to some very ugly, forgotten value so that no one could log in in safe mode.

Prior to XP it was not possible to disable the built-in account, but in later W2k it became possible to make it so that it could only be used for local login, not over the network. When the built-in admin account is disabled it can still be used to log in within a safe mode boot, this is also true if locked.

The idea from early days of NT was that there must be at least one protected way to get in with admin privs. Hence the built-in admin, which back then could not be disabled and could not be locked out. This evolved, and the remaining behavior is that it can be made useless, except in a safe mode boot.

"Freaky" <notgoodtomention@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message news:uZrWQkHFHHA.924@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Cross-post on advise. Original from microsoft.public.windowsexp.general

Hey there,

I started a topic earlier that administrator was able to logon in safe mode (whilst the account is disabled...). Apparently this is normal, although I don't understand why... We don't disable the account for nothing... if we wanted to use it we'd password protect it.

Anyways, with the setup that was here previously it was NOT possible to logon as administrator locally in safe mode. Now I still have the RIS image, and installed it on a workstation. However, now it is possible to logon.

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This probably means the setting came from a group policy, as we've changed a lot in these and removed a lot of them too. Anyone know what setting it might have been? Can't be much else as the old images now do allow administrator in safe mode. There are 3 people here that are absolutely sure it wasn't possible before with those images... Don't remember the error message tho' that would have helped :/.

Setting a password with the RIS isn't really an option. It would be readable in the .sif file, or we would have to enter one each time. Both aren't really options for us.

So if anyone has any suggestions on preventing the (disabled..) administrator account from accessing safe mode, that would be great. The problem is that people just logon to the machine as local administrator using safe mode w/ networking and add themselves to the local administrators group. This is very undesirable.

TIA